

# LUKAS, NACE GUTIERREZ & SACHS

CHARTERED

1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD, SUITE 1500

MCLEAN, VIRGINIA 22102

703 584 8678 • 703 584 8696 FAX

WWW.FCCLAW.COM

RUSSELL D. LUKAS\*  
DAVID L. NACE\*  
THOMAS GUTIERREZ\*  
ELIZABETH R. SACHS\*  
GEORGE L. LYON, JR.  
PAMELA L. GIST\*  
DAVID A. LAFURIA  
B. LYNN F. RATNAVALE\*  
TODD SLAMOWITZ\*  
STEVEN M. CHERNOFF\*

CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
ALI KUZEHKANANI  
LEROY A. ADAM  
LEILA REZANAVAZ  
SUMEET K. BHALOTIA  
—  
OF COUNSEL  
JOHN J. MCAVOY\*  
J. K. HAGE III\*  
LEONARD S. KOLSKY\*  
HON. GERALD S. MCGOWAN\*

\*NOT ADMITTED IN VA

Writer's Direct Dial  
(703) 584-8663  
[lsachs@fcclaw.com](mailto:lsachs@fcclaw.com)

November 30, 2005

## **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: In the Matter of the Development of Operational,  
Technical, and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting  
Federal, State and Local Public Safety Communication  
Requirements through the Year 2010  
WT Docket No. 96-86  
Ex Parte Presentation**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of the Coalition for Wideband Data Deployment ("CWDD" or "Coalition"), and in accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b), undersigned counsel hereby submits the instant notice of an *ex parte* presentation.

On November 29, 2005, Keith Cowan of IPMobileNet, Inc., and Robert T. Rouleau and Raymond R. Paché of Dataradio, Inc., along with undersigned counsel met with Michael J. Wilhelm, Chief, and John Evanoff, of the Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, and Thomas P. Stanley and Cathleen Massey of the Office of the Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau to discuss issues relating to the wideband data standard at 700 MHz. A copy of the white paper presented at the meeting is attached.

Kindly refer any questions or correspondence regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Elizabeth R. Sachs

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
November 30, 2005  
Page 2

Enclosure

cc: Michael J. Wilhelm  
John Evanoff  
Thomas P. Stanley  
Cathleen Massey

WT Docket No. 96-86  
Seventh NPRM

Coalition for Wideband Data  
Deployment

November 29, 2005

# Background

- Coalition supports FCC goal of promoting public safety interoperability for data as well as voice communications.
- Coalition formed for the purpose of presenting the views of users and suppliers of public safety mobile data systems.
- Members of Coalition are pursuing technical approaches that will facilitate interoperability at the network and applications levels.

# Public Safety Status

- At Nov. 2005 NPSTC meeting, Governing Board changed its previous position and voted to recommend that FCC not approve SAM (or any other) standard for 700 MHz wideband data channels at this time.
- Governing Board also voted to recommend considering revising 700 MHz band plan to allocate wideband channels of 1 MHz or more for true broadband applications.

# Coalition Believes Data Interoperability is Achievable

- For a standard to be adopted and accepted by user community it must meet certain basic criteria:
  - Must be economically and technically accessible to the broad range of public safety entities;
  - Must meet identifiable data requirements in a real world environment;
  - Must be adaptable to the rapid technical advances that characterize wireless telecommunications.

# Public Safety Concerns About Proposed SAM Standard

- High-cost solution out of reach of many agencies, particularly those outside core urban areas.
- Proprietary technology increases costs even further.
- Proprietary technology retards technical innovation by all but standard holder.
- Requires dense infrastructure of linear base stations unsuitable for all but highest density jurisdictions.
- Possibility of broadband channels require postponing decision on any data standard.

# What is the solution?

- An emphasis on interoperability at the network and applications levels.
- Mandate a low cost, lowest common denominator solution based on Open Standards.
- Make interoperability affordable.



# Some Requirements for Public Safety Wideband Data Systems

- Performance for text messaging, dispatch and data base access;
- IP connectivity to terminal equipment and to network infrastructure to facilitate network interconnection;
- Equipment availability from multiple manufacturers;
- Cost affordable for large and small jurisdictions.

# Open Versus Proprietary Standards

- Open Standards preclude patents and/or intellectual property claims.
- They are immediately accessible at no cost to any manufacturer thus ensuring a competitive marketplace and promoting affordable equipment.
- They are often made available as “Open Source” with designs and software put into the public domain.

# Internet: Best Example of Successful Open Standard

- Irrefutable example of successful global interoperability.
- Entire suite of protocols is Open Standard and, in many cases, Open Source.
- Compare growth and influence of Internet over the past 30 years with limited advances in Public Safety interoperability over same time period.

# Present Public Safety Alternatives

- Mesh networks at 2.4 or 4.9 GHz at cost of \$150,000 per square mile.
- Public Carrier broadband service for \$50 a month but...
  - Not always available where needed or with adequate reliability;
  - Can collapse during most critical emergency periods when calling volume peaks.

# Why Do So Many Public Safety Users Choose Public Carriers?

- Broadband services, voice, video and data with unlimited use for \$50 a month is compelling.
- There is no viable alternative.

# Public Safety Needs Affordable, Wideband Capacity of Its Own

- Laws of physics say that a 150 kHz channel cannot carry as much data as a 1.25 MHz without very complex equipment and short range.
- Public Safety needs broadband for multimedia communications applications with a useful range measured in miles, not in feet.

# Coalition Recommendations

- FCC has opportunity to adopt rules that will promote meaningful improvements in Public Safety interoperability and secure broadband communications capabilities:
  - Move promptly to revisit band plan to provide for 700 MHz broadband channels;
  - Support Open Standards for data interoperability with emphasis on lowest common denominator technology that will support interoperability at network and application levels.